

# **Outreach Feedback from Southwest Community Center / Teen Life Center 2011**

## **#1 What Should We Prioritize?**

- Senior pickle ball / volleyball, aerobics, weight room
- Karate class (just came from YMCA)
- Community classes at SWCC
- Keep facilities clean
- Safety for all participants
- More revenue
- More rental
- Enough staff to manage programs
- Use space when teens are not in building
- Work out scheduling to maximize users (populations)
- Outreach / engagement guiding principles
- Protect programs for diverse groups
  - Home schools Thursday & Friday, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm; Wed. 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
  - Senior / Special Pos – Wed.,
  - Team sports – Citywide, Cubs
  - Special Events – (Increase)
- Keep a Program Coordinator @ a site
- New program & staff to utilize the new Sports Field Complex
- Scholarships
- Better communication with community
- Sustaining SW Advisory Council
- Activities for all age groups; offer classes after 5:00 pm for full time working parents
- Worried about facility turning into a teen center only
- Balance of all population programs (age, ability)
- Accessibility (DON) issues
- Hours of service to accommodate majority of population
- Female only swims with female staff (diversity) in programs
- Having community centers
- With viaduct closure (having center accessible)
- Needs to stay open
- Maintain staffing levels (staff provides jobs)
- Keep quality of programs
- Programs for people w/disabilities (hub)
- Access to CC / gym space Wed. 6:00 – 9 pm
- Review of special circumstances for accommodation of difficulty - abled sports groups

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- Reasonable balance of access across all community groups (80 / 20); groups to balance community; kids don't have to lose to prioritized other groups
- Disabled children / teen (access)
- Disability center
- Better relationship w/Seattle P & R and Seattle Schools for user access

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## **2. What Should We Continue To Do?**

Senior programs: pickle ball (12:00 – 2:00 pm); Aerobics w/weight room (9:00 – 10:00 am); volley ball (10:00 – 12 AM)

- Europakids
- Home School Classes (during school day)
- Karate (pm), handicapped rugby (pm), ballet (pm)
- Community Use w/mix of community members (diversity)
- Rentals – gym, pool parties w/ cake room
- Social connections for older adults ~ valuable for wellness
- Healthy activities for all ages
- Computer classes
- Everything that Rec. Staff have worked hard to create over the past year
- Seek revenue opportunities
- Teen Karate
- Continue safe environment for all
- \* Gym space for rugby (Wed. 6:00 – 9:00, Wed pm) ~ \* First choice of all community center sites because of accessibility, parking, storage, size, etc.
  - \* storage for chairs
  - \*parking
  - \*access – bus access
- Drop in gym space / time
- Teen wheelchair rugby nights (interaction)
- Use volunteers to help w/maintenance and other chores
- Continue to pursue ways to use / train volunteers to monitor buildings
- Gym space for basketball – wheelchair (currently @ Miller / NOVA)
- Drop in community access for all ages
- Youth civic engagement – connecting teens to expanded community
- Partnerships
- Weekend rentals
- Keep front line staff
  - Institutional knowledge / community connection
  - Relationships, interaction, outreach, trust
  - Goodwill
  - Professional knowledge
- Sustain SWCC Adv. Council for community voice, + value / weight that advice (please listen)
- Continue to educate community – issues, offerings, special events
  - Face-to-face / WS Herald / BLOG / E-Mails/ face book
- Keep community engaged
- Community “hab”

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- Ballet – after 5:00 pm (Wed), 3 – 4 yrs
- Recreation classes that are full and successful should remain here; when overfull / capacity then expand to 2<sup>nd</sup> site
- Neighborhood connection
- Continue to keep programs with-in safe walking distances; reduce reliance on cars (wheels)
- \* Seek stability in multi-use facilities for multi-age groups
- “Keep my little kids ballet class cuz it’s fun and it’s w/my friends “ by Russell, age 4 ☺
- Look for ways to make money
- Continue to use tax dollars for basic /core recreation programs / services
- Soccer, basket ball, tennis, team sports
- Everything we are doing right now – S
- Special Events: community events, Luau, egg hunt, Christmas ships, car show, halloween, family fun night
- Dedicated community center program – coordinator: have time, energy, knowledge to interact / partner w/community / schools
- \* Keep Gina! – rotted in community w/great ideas, rec. professional w/yrs of experience
- Continue to keep CC available to the larger community
- Keep com. Neighborhood on Delridge and keep Europa kids upstairs
- Continue to keep all CC’s open – distribute operating hours to keep SWCC open
- Keep toddler gym 9:00 – 2:00, Wed. & Fri; CSW \$2.00 / drop-in
- Continue all special groups use:
  - Spec. Pops
  - Wheelchair athletics
  - Seniors & Adult
  - Home school
  - Break dance
- Continue to plan programs with new SPS sports facilities – tennis courts / softball field
- Use CC staff to coordinate and schedule
- Continue use of computer room for all ages
- Staff for toddler gym
  - Quick card for all users + programs
- Use room for pool party combo
- Allow cc + pool to work together to provide balance community programs
- Sports Teams: Basketball, track & field, tennis, volleyball
- \*Continue efforts to identify new dedicated revenue streams for Seattle Parks & Rec:

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- Cruise ship fees
- Shipping container
- Van fee
- Facility names' rights
- Hotel / car rental feeds
- Revise business model
- Sea Parks & Rec early retirement incentive

### **3. What Should We Stop Doing?**

- Excluding Community
- Don't take away Parks & Rec staff
  - Program Coordination at SWCC
- Disrupting CC continuity
- Providing unclear communication
- D.O.N. Neighborhood Service Center from coming into the CC
- Making decision in "silos", i.e. Aquatics, CC, Teen Programs, ARC
- Excluding SWCC AC members from early participation in decision making
- Stop cutting access + opportunities at CC's
- Planning to use SWCC as a teen spaces only, don't isolate teens
- Eliminating the opportunities to bring in new revenue at SWCC by making it teen only
- Stop non-recreation uses of rec. facilities i.e. DON
- Stop increasing management + decreasing front line staff
- Closing access to CC's, especially gym space
- Disproportionally impacting users w/ disabilities + in wheel chairs
- Stop expecting public facilities to be financially self-sufficient; they are public facilities + tax \$'s should support them
- Stop devaluing the access to CC's how it provides to the community benefits in fitness, health, overall well being, self worth, self esteem, i.e. wheel chair rugby / basketball ~ creates community connection + dialogue
- Stop controlling HVAC off-site by computer control on-site
- Stop inefficient maintenance closures \* + practices
- Stop moving staff or minimizing \*
- Cutting access + opportunities to utilize community centers for the community
- Ineffective marketing, community engagement
- Stop charging drop-in fees for adults + kids
- Isolating teen in single locations' spaces
- Reducing hours
- Stop limited promotion of services to print ie. brochures (use multimedia)

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- Stop bureaucratic tape to better engage + utilize technology with community
- Stop cutting front line staff
- Stop cutting community infrastructure
- Stop following Mayor rules / ideas
- Using inaccurate / outdated data to make operational decisions, ie. CCAT analyzing group
- Stop using CC space for long term rentals
- Stop targeting vulnerable communities \*SW one of most diverse communities
- Stop "avoiding" the guiding principles
- Stop the staff reductions so that new opportunities @ sports field can be developed i.e. Denny MS old site

### **#4 How Can I Help?**

- Employment readiness / life skills
- Participate and support all age programming
- Sustain SW Advisor Council (community, teens, special events)
- Safety of community
- Encouraging hospitality (clean up)
- Establish & communicate scholarship for community members
- Community / Civic engagement w/existing community priorities
- Consistent staff (experience)
- Building monitor (registration)
- Homework session (tutoring)
- Sound proof divider
- Teen representative attending Advisory Council meeting
- Sponsoring adult / teen activities
- Expand media presence of activities / events (West Seattle blog, West Seattle Herald)
- Be a presence through the process
- Provide volunteer opportunities
- Establishing stronger voice (media)
- Support Parks levy (staffing)
- Have community write levy
- Educate our neighbors
- Support all age programs
- Continued access to space by outside user groups (affordable, reasonable times)
- Engaging community in non-traditional sports

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